

# THE DEMING GRAPHIC

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY

ESTABLISHED IN 1902

CLYDE EARL ELY, Editor and Owner

Entered at the Postoffice as Second Class Matter. Subscription Rates, Two Dollars per Year; Six Months, One Dollar; Three Months, Fifty Cents. Subscriptions to Foreign Countries, Fifty Cents Extra

## ADVERTISING RATES:

Fifteen cents a single column inch on monthly contracts with minimum of eight inches, single column; eighteen cents a single column inch for single insertions or less than four insertions; local column, ten cents a line each insertion; business locals, one cent a word; no local advertisements less than fifteen cents; no foreign advertisements less than twenty-five cents; card of thanks, fifty cents; resolutions of respect, twenty-five cents an inch

DEMING, NEW MEXICO, FRIDAY FEBRUARY 25, 1916

Deming is to be congratulated on the quality of her hospitality extended to the visiting cattlemen. The representatives of New Mexico's great industry will remember and be glad some day to return to the metropolis of Southwestern New Mexico. Local interest in the prosperity of the cattle business is more than passing, because, at the present time, Deming is the greatest cattle shipping point in the state.

## TENSE FOREIGN RELATIONS

Tense situations in foreign relations has caused the administration anxiety. There is no attempt on the part of the President to disguise the fact. The country is in no condition for war. The navy is a third or fourth rate armament and the present army is hardly strong enough to enter into plans for defense. The Panama canal, built to facilitate the exchange of warships from one ocean to another, is closed, perhaps for a year. Conflict comes suddenly, in fact, is threatened now.

As the strangling blockade of the central empire tightens, they become desperate and moral responsibility wanes. England, which is the Tenton's real adversary, finds that it is impracticable to try to gain an advantage against its enemies on land. England has not exerted her sea power in its fullest measure, and when she does, neutrals are going to suffer.

The maintaining of international law rests with the United States. It will soon take more than notes to do this. Diplomacy must give way to force in the end, or, at least, a threat of force that has the power to make it effective.

## REQUIESCAT IN PACE

Dwight B. Stephens, sheriff, is dead; but the spirit of the man is still with us. It dwells in the midst of Deming; it passes through the mesquite and yucca plains; it is abroad in the mountain passes. Freed from its mortal bonds, it points every man and youth to his duty, and with the indomitable will of Nemesis pursues those that scoff at the social compact, uncovering the outlawed in their most secret hiding places. Luna county is a better place to live in because Dwight Stephens lived, and worked, and was buried here. Where law and order had one defender, there are now legions. His work goes on forever.

Mr. Stephens was a gentleman and a border sheriff afterward—rare combination. He believed that he could uphold the law without himself becoming a bully and a ruffian. He was not a "gun man," in the sense of being a "killer." He always tried to work his will through persuasion, though he was inflexible as fate itself when reason failed to move the recalcitrant. He was cautious, as an officer of intelligence ought to be. His death was accidental, in the sense that luck was all on the side of the outlaws that shot him. He died with his face to his enemies and at the head of his posse. His courage and honesty of purpose are legacies to his children.

Aside from his virtues as a public officer, Dwight Stephens was a gentle husband and father; of his aged parents he was most considerate; and his friends were many and loyal. In a business way, it can be said that he was generous to a fault; he believed in spending his money here. Deming and the Mimbres Valley never had a more enthusiastic booster. Surely the citizens of southern New Mexico owe him a debt of gratitude that they cannot repay. But Dwight Stephens would laugh at that in his hearty, good-natured way. Dear old Dwight. Requiescat in pace.

## DEMING NEEDS A DECENT PRISON

Deming has had two jail deliveries in the past four years that have been disastrous. What kind of a jail is it? It is a little adobe compound, with a sandy plaza, surrounded by squalid cells and other quarters. It has been condemned by grand juries for its unsanitary condition and lack of facilities for the safekeeping of prisoners. It is as archaic and about as pretentious as an Apache hogpen. Four years ago, men sealed the wall from the outside and freed the prisoners. That cost the lives of three citizens. The present break cost another citizen's life and might have cost more.

The county jail is the only building in Deming of which its citizens are ashamed. Only a short time ago the county commissioners tried to get a tax levy to build a decent prison, but the state tax commission turned this down. It isn't Deming's fault that the menace to the peace and safety of the city is allowed to continue.

Deming, being located on three railroads, gets more than its share of cheap crooks and desperate criminals. The winter "tourist," travel of this character brings to us the scum of society from every part of the country. Most of it goes on, but enough is always with us to maintain a too-numerous jail population. Being on the border, we get a share of those who find Mexico too warm for them. That Luna county is one of the most peaceful sections of the United States has been due to the courage and intelligence of its peace officers. They can get the fugitives, but it is too much to ask that they keep their eyes on them unaided while the slow wheels of justice are turning. Under the present conditions, the local prison is to continue to be a flourishing institution, and the peace and safety of the citizens will depend on how securely our unwelcome guests can be kept.

## DEMING LAND PLAN HAS POSSIBILITIES

The "Deming Land Plan," as it is getting to be called, has been receiving some wide publicity recently. It has attracted speculation from those that seek an answer to the eternal "land question."

The plan has been pretty well thrashed out by now, and its weaknesses and strength, in theory at least, have been touched by the spot light of reason. Those of socialist turn, will see in it the germ of "redistribution," but they will hardly approve of the selfish ends to be served. In faith, there isn't much of altruism in it.

It was pointed out at the banquet of the chamber of commerce that practically every one present held land in large quantities for speculation. They proposed to turn half of their holdings in to the civic body. Did they do it? Not yet! Some turned in small quantities several miles from the city, but the broad band of mesquite that is fairly choking Deming to death is still intact, and the chances are good that it will continue to be. However, the plan has been placed in operation on a sufficient acreage and it may work out.

Of course, the clever fellows that secured large acreages near Deming are not going to turn loose when renewed hope of selling is in view. Again they scent that dear "unearned increment." They would turn this new scheme to their own account. At the present time, land undeveloped is worthless, except to form valuable estates which posterity alone will enjoy. This is a peculiar trait of human character; this sweating to accumulate holdings for the next generation. Unless immigration can be induced here, the land is an expense to the present owners and without market value.

Every land question is caused by avarice. To overcome this perfectly natural quality, is a monumental task. Can Deming do it?

## ODD BITS OF NEWS

The great battle on the western front, where more than 250,000 Germans under the German crown prince are assaulting the French lines along the line of twenty-five miles north of Verdun, is the outstanding feature of current war news.

At last accounts the battle was raging with great fury, both sides keeping up a continuous artillery fire and throwing masses of troops into have been extremely heavy.

After the men of the German prize crew on board the captured British steamer Westburn had landed their prisoners on the Canary Islands, they took the Westburn outside the harbor of Santa Cruz, Tenerife and sank her.

An unexpected war development is reported from Lisbon, where thirty six German and Austrian vessels were seized Wednesday by the commander of the Portuguese naval division.

A bottle containing the last message from the captain of the German Zeppelin L-19, which was wrecked in the North Sea after the recent air-ship raid on England, has been found.

Germany is said to have secured a second contract for 100,000 car loads of Roumanian grain, and to have entered into other commercial arrangements with Roumania.

The death of Admiral Hugo von Pold, who has just retired from the command of the German battle fleet, was announced in Berlin.

Washington—Rear Admiral Badger of the navy general board told the house naval committee that the Panama canal had failed to solve the defense problem of the Atlantic and Pacific coasts with one battle fleet. He advised that the Pacific coast be provided with its own battle fleet.

Washington—While the house military committee was taking steps Wednesday toward getting its bill for the increase of the regular army and federalization of the national guard before the house in ten days, the naval committee was being told by Admiral Winslow that the entire Pacific fleet, which he commands, might be an easy victim for an angle good enemy battleship.

Washington—President Wilson, at the end of two days of agitation to congress for action warning Americans off armed merchantmen, wrote a letter last night to Senator Stone, chairman of the senate foreign relations committee, stating that he could not consent to the abridgement of the right of American citizens in any respect.

"The honor of and self-respect of the nation is involved," he said.

"We covet peace, and shall preserve it at any cost, save loss of honor."

The president expressed the hope that explanations of the declared intentions of the central powers to sink armed merchant ships without warning would put a different aspect on a situation which now seemed to present insuperable obstacles.

"We have had no reason to question the good faith or the fidelity of their promises in the past," he added, "and I, for one, feel confident that we shall have none in the future."

The letter was written in answer to one written late yesterday afternoon by Senator Stone, outlining the situation existing at the capitol, where since yesterday morning, persistent demands had been made for some action which might lessen the possibilities of war between the United States and Germany.

Petrograd—Addressing the duma Tuesday, Foreign Minister Sazonoff reviewed the war situation in a most optimistic way, although he declared it was more difficult now than ever to foresee the end of the world struggle.

Washington—International considerations which moved the navy board to change its time-honored policy last year and declare that the United States navy should equal the strongest afloat by not later than 1925, will be disclosed to the house naval committee soon in executive session by Rear Admiral Badger, a member of the board. Examination of Admiral Badger in open session was concluded yesterday, the admiral consistently refusing to discussion except behind closed doors, the board's view of dangers which may confront the nation.

El Paso—Roque Gomez, charged with neutrality violation, and who was arrested here Tuesday of last week, is out on bond in El Paso.

Some of that delicious fresh home-made candy at Rossers'.

Location Notices and Proof of Labor Blanks at the Graphic Office.

## YOU ARE RESPECTFULLY

Invited to visit our institution and give us a share of your business. The personal attention which the officers of this bank extend to every customer is a most important factor in guaranteeing efficient service to all.

## THE BANK OF DEMING

Oldest Bank in Luna County

### OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS:

JHN CORBETT, President

J. A. MAHONEY, Vice-Pres.

A. W. POLLARD

ARTHUR C. RATHIEL, Cashier

THOS. R. TAYLOR

H. C. BROWN, Assistant Cashier

C. L. BAKER

CAPITAL \$50,000

SURPLUS \$40,000

SAFETY DEPOSIT BOXES FOR RENT



W. D. MURRAY  
President  
J. C. COOPER  
Vice President

E. J. FOULKS  
Cashier  
H. B. HALL and A. L. MAPLE  
Assistant Cashiers

## The Deming National Bank

CAPITAL \$40,000

SURPLUS \$40,000

### Solicits Your Business

DEMING.

NEW MEXICO

## L U M B E R

Lath, Shingles, Cement, Doors, Sash, Wall Board, Building Paper, Builders Hardware, Corrugated Roofing, House Paints

## Mimbres Valley Lumber Company

J. V. SCHURTZ, Manager

South Silver Avenue

Phone 107

## THE OXYCETYLENE WELDING PROCESS

We have just installed one of the finest welding plants in this part of the state and are prepared to do all kinds of welding in a satisfactory manner. Let us fix it right.

Blacksmithing.

Farm Implements

Phone 108

221 S. Gold Ave.

## F. C. PETERSON